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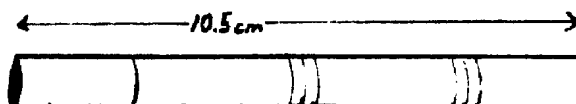
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(54) FILTRE CIGARETTE DIVISIBLE
(54) DIVISIBLE FILTER CIGARETTES

(57) The invention provides an improved cigarette design in that it can be consumed either as two half length cigarettes or one regular sized one. A filter cigarette is provided which is, in fact, comprised of two half length filter cigarettes that are joined together with cigarette paper (or cigarette tape) which has been scored so that although non-patent, it can still be easily broke in half by the consumer. An identical piece of cigarette paper (or cigarette tape), also scored, is used to secure one of the filters to the tobacco rod. This presents as a king size cigarette with a filter at each end. The consumer can break off the extra filter to smoke a whole cigarette or break the cigarette in two to create two, equal in length, shorter filter cigarette.





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(54) **Titre : FILTRE CIGARETTE DIVISIBLE**

(54) **Title: DIVISIBLE FILTER CIGARETTES**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

The invention provides an improved cigarette design in that it can be consumed either as two half length cigarettes or one regular sized one. A filter cigarette is provided which is, in fact, comprised of two half length filter cigarettes that are joined together with cigarette paper (or cigarette tape) which has been scored so that although non-patent, it can still be easily broke in half by the consumer. An identical piece of cigarette paper (or cigarette tape), also scored, is used to secure one of the filters to the tobacco rod. This presents as a king size cigarette with a filter at each end. The consumer can break off the extra filter to smoke a whole cigarette or break the cigarette in two to create two, equal in length, shorter filter cigarette.

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Divisible Filter Cigarette

Abstract

The invention provides an improved cigarette design in that it can be consumed either as two half-length cigarettes or one regular sized one. A filter cigarette is provided which is, in fact, comprised of two half-length filter cigarettes that are joined together with cigarette paper (or cigarette tape) which has been scored so that although non-patent, it can still be easily broken in half by the consumer. An identical piece of cigarette paper (or cigarette tape), also scored, is used to secure one of the filters to the tobacco rod. This presents as a king size cigarette with a filter at each end. The consumer can break off the extra filter to smoke a whole cigarette or break the cigarette in two to create two, equal in length, shorter filter cigarettes.

Divisible Filter Cigarettes

Field of the Invention

This invention provides a versatile cigarette which allows the consumer the choice of either smoking it all at once (as one would do with a conventional cigarette) or breaking it in half to form two half-length filter cigarettes.

Background Information and Prior Art

The idea that consumers may not always want to smoke a whole cigarette has been approached before. Designs in the past, however, have always involved some sort of accompanying tools (cigarette cutters, tubes in which to place the unused portion such as presented in CA2246886; CA 2203977; CA2081750; CA2091600; CA2095878; CA2203977; CA2246886; US5819753; US 5385157; US5377696; US5303721; US4164231; US4160318; US4027682; US1908890) or assembly (attaching tubes to filters as utilized by many ideas such as CA01212010; CA02311728; CA02056683; CA2311728; US5749378; US5197495; US5018536). Such approaches were never very popular with the consumers as, in addition to the extra steps and paraphernalia involved, one was never happy with the saved half of the cigarette as it tended to be moist, discoloured and smelled like the cigarette butt that it was.

Summary of Invention

The Divisible filter cigarette overcomes these obstacles as no additional tools or uncommon dexterity is required. It appears to be a king-sized cigarette with a filter at both ends and a scored area in the middle allowing the consumer to either snap off the extra filter (and thus have a traditional length cigarette) or to snap it in half offering the consumer two equal but half-length filter cigarettes. Such a cigarette is constructed from a half-length filter cigarette, a half length tobacco rod (* for definition purposes "tobacco rod" refers to a 6.1mm elongated cylinder of tobacco wrapped in cigarette paper. The specific dimensions of the tobacco rod and filters will vary according to the preferences of the cigarette manufacturers who wish to incorporate this invention into their product line.), a second filter and two scored cigarette paper strips (or cigarette tape) scored in such a way as to allow the connection to be easily snapped apart cleanly by the consumer. These scored cigarette paper strips are used to secure the half-length filter cigarette to the tobacco rod and the aforementioned tobacco rod to the second filter.

Brief Description of Drawings

Preferred embodiments of various aspects of the invention are shown in the drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 - Shows a typical commercially available filter cigarette (included for comparison purposes only)

Fig. 2 - are the components required to construct the first embodiment of this invention illustrating how it is assembled

Fig. 2.1 - is a close-up view of the scored cigarette paper (or tape) used to attach the components of the invention as demonstrated in Fig. 2

Fig. 3 - is the assembled invention allowing the individual components to be readily identified

Fig. 4 - is a representation of how the finished product would appear commercially

Fig. 5 - is a representation of the half-length filter cigarette once the other half is removed

Fig. 6 - is a representation of the full-length cigarette once the second filter is removed

Detailed Description of Invention

In the particularly versatile embodiment of the invention illustrated, the Divisible Filter Cigarette appears to differ from a traditional king-sized cigarette in that there is a second filter taped to the distal end and there is a scored paper bisecting the cigarette. (Fig.3) It is constructed from a half-length cigarette (2.2mm filter; 3.05mm tobacco rod = 5.25mm), a second half-length tobacco rod (3.05mm); a second filter (2.2mm) and two scored but non-patent strips of cigarette paper or tape. (Fig.2)

The tobacco rod is attached to the filter using one of the pieces of scored cigarette tape (Fig.2, Fig.2.1) The resulting half-length cigarette is attached to the other half-length cigarette with the second piece of scored cigarette tape (Fig.2). This is done by connecting the two open ends of the half cigarettes so that the two filters are at the extremities (Fig.3, Fig.4).

An alternative method of assembly could be based upon patent 1240898. 1240898 was originally intended to produce a double-length cigarette (approximately 13.55mm) which would be mechanically split in half to form two full length filter cigarettes prior to packaging. By changing the overall length to approximately 10.5mm (6.1mm being the tobacco rod) including both filters (2.2mm each), the product could be severed at it's midpoint and at the juncture of the second filter. It would then be already aligned and so could be easily re-connected with the cigarette tape as described above.

Examples of Intended Use

Society is changing so that now most public buildings and common areas are becoming "smoke free". As a result, people who still smoke must go out into the street to have a cigarette. As this is usually a brief "utility smoke" (done purely to satisfy their craving for nicotine) there is little desire to consume the whole cigarette. Inclement weather, scornful looks from non-smokers, time limitations and other environmental factors conspire to discourage the smoker from using the whole cigarette. Most often, at least half the cigarette is discarded as the consumer hurries back to work (or the ball game, wedding, restaurant or whatever). Just as frequently the "smoke-break" is skipped altogether.

By offering the consumer options one can decide if they are going to smoke a whole cigarette (by snapping off the extra filter) or just have half of one (by snapping the cigarette in half). This second option leaves the consumer a second, unused filter cigarette for later use.

This product could also be attractive to those wishing to quit smoking or at least cut down. By limiting themselves to half a cigarette, over time they will decrease the amount of nicotine that their body craves and so can cut down in increments.

As well, this product would be popular with those interested in saving money as they would be able to purchase 50 half-cigarettes for about the price of 25 full sized ones. Friends could literally "split a smoke".

The beauty of this idea is that at no time does the consumer surrender the option of enjoying a full sized, leisurely cigarette. Each time they pull one out they can determine the length of time they plan to smoke.

Claims

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A cigarette that can be consumed either as a whole or as two half-sized filter cigarettes
2. A cigarette which has a filter at each end.
3. A cigarette that, having a filter at each end is scored or marked in the middle so that it can be easily divided into two equal but half-length cigarettes and is, in addition, scored at the juncture of the second filter so that the aforementioned filter can be easily removed to leave a conventional full-length cigarette.
4. A cigarette comprised of a half-length filter cigarette (which is in fact comprised of a filter and a tobacco rod wrapped in cigarette paper so that it may be smoked), a second half-length tobacco rod (wrapped in cigarette paper), a second cigarette filter and two pieces of tape (or strips of cigarette paper) which have been scored or marked. These pieces of tape (or strips of cigarette paper) would be used to connect the half-length cigarette to the half-length tobacco rod and to connect the half-length tobacco rod to the second cigarette filter.
5. Cigarette paper and cigarette tape which are scored in such a way as to permit it to be easily separated along the score while at the same time retaining the non-patent characteristics of the original cigarette paper until deliberately broken.

FIG 1

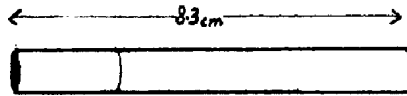


FIG 2

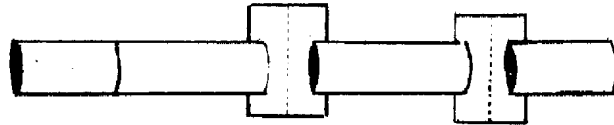


FIG 3

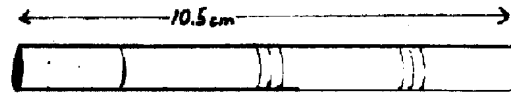


FIG 4

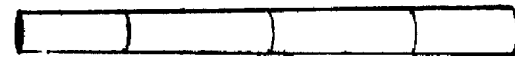


FIG 5

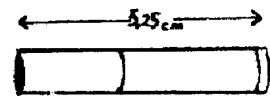


FIG 6

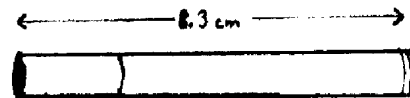


FIG 2.1

